

ELECTROSURGICAL MODE CONVERSION SYSTEM

RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This patent application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to U.S. Patent Application
Serial No. 60/144,946, that was filed on July 21, 1999, that is entitled "SURGICAL MODE
CONVERSION SYSTEM," the entire disclosure of which is incorporated by reference in its entirety
herein, and further is a divisional of, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to, U.S. Patent
Application Serial No. 09/619,919, that was filed on July 20, 2000, ^{now US Patent No. 6,622,489} that is entitled
10 "ELECTROSURGICAL MODE CONVERSION SYSTEM," and the entire disclosure of which is
also incorporated by reference in its entirety herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

15 The present invention relates to surgical methods and assemblies employing the application
of electrical energy to tissue to achieve a predetermined surgical effect, and, more particularly, to
achieve such effect with reduced likelihood of inadvertent tissue damage and with better control of
energy application to tissues.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

20 The potential uses and recognized advantages of employing electrical energy for surgical
purposes are ever-increasing. In particular, for example, electrosurgery techniques are now being